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REMARKS*Drawings*

In the Office Action, the Examiner objected to the drawings for being informal.

Applicant submits herewith replacement drawings in compliance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(d). In accordance with the rules, the replacement drawings are labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the top margin.

*Claims*

The original claims of the present application have been cancelled and replaced with new claims in response to the Examiner's Office Action to place the application in condition for allowance. Applicant has made a concerted effort to present claims which clearly define over the prior art of record, and thus to place this case in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 8 and 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by United States Patent No. 5,841,709 (McClure) and rejected claims 3-7 and 10-14 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over McClure in view of United States Patent No. 6,999,357. Applicant has cancelled the original claims and presents herewith new claims that further distinguish the present invention from that which is disclosed in the prior art of record.

For example, claim 15 specifically claims (claim 21 is similar, but is directed to an apparatus) a method for testing memory which includes testing functional memory, repairing the memory by adding access to redundant elements, adding access to additional redundant memory which is not required for the repair, and after testing the functional memory and repairing the

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memory, testing the memory including the additional redundant memory which has been added which was not required for the repair.

In contrast, McClure, for example, discloses testing all the matrix-memory columns in a first mode (see col. 7, lines 42-45), and then in a second mode "all of the nondefective columns are tested simultaneously, but only the redundant columns that are mapped to replace defective matrix columns are tested along with the nondefective matrix columns" (col. 8, lines 3-8).

McClure does not disclose or suggest adding access to additional redundant memory which is not required for the repair, and after testing the functional memory and repairing the memory, testing the memory including the additional redundant memory which has been added which was not required for the repair.


In view of the above amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests that the present application be passed to issuance.

Should the present claims not be deemed adequate to effectively define the patentable subject matter, the Examiner is respectfully urged to call the undersigned attorney of record to discuss the claims in an effort to reach an agreement toward allowance of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 10, 2006

By: \_\_\_\_\_

  
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